

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: John A. Russo
City Manager

Date: September 6, 2011

Re: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Grant Application for \$328,092 to TransForm for the Cycle 4 Safe Routes to Transit Program, and to Execute all Necessary Documents

BACKGROUND

TransForm, a Bay Area non-profit specializing in transportation, is soliciting applications for the Cycle 4 Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) grant program. The SR2T program awards \$4 million in grants for Cycle 4 to facilitate walking and bicycling to regional transit stops or stations. The program is funded by Regional Measure 2, which raised tolls on state-owned Bay Area bridges by \$1 and was approved by voters in 2004. SR2T is administered by TransForm and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition, with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) acting as the fiscal agent. By improving the safety and convenience of biking and walking to regional transit, SR2T will give commuters the opportunity to leave their cars at home and reduce congestion on Bay Area bridges. Four million dollars is available for this funding cycle. No local matching funds are required.

DISCUSSION

Transit users in Alameda cite the need for benches and shelters while waiting for buses, and improvements to access to the bus stops by alternative modes of transportation such as walking and bicycling. Staff proposes to submit a grant application for a SR2T project to fund the installation of new bus shelters, real-time traveler information at the bus shelters, and bike route signs along the bikeways recommended in the 2010 update of the City of Alameda Bicycle Master Plan. The purpose of this project is to provide enhanced convenience for bus passengers during their travel to/from bus stops and while waiting at bus stops, and to provide awareness to motorists of the bicyclists' presence along the planned bike routes.

The specific elements of the project include:

- The construction of ten new bus shelters at regional transit bus stops in areas with a high concentration of bus riders. The new bus shelters will have a consistent look and feel with existing bus shelters in Alameda. Staff has

City Council
Agenda Item #5-G
09-06-11

proposed the bus shelter locations on the basis of existing regional bus service, number of riders using the bus stops, and the bus shelter priority list approved by the City Council in 2004.

- The installation of a dynamic message sign, communication system, and electricity at sixteen existing bus shelters along Park and Webster Streets to provide real-time information. The real-time information for transit users would provide accurate times when buses are expected to arrive and therefore would further enhance the access to the transit.
- The installation of fifty bike route sign installations in the west end of Alameda to better connect the area to AC Transit Line 31. The Public Works Department staff will install Bicycle Route Guide signs at specific points along the three designated bike routes on Pacific Avenue, Fifth Street, and Third Street. The proposed bike routes will create a comprehensive bikeway network in the west end of Alameda to better access transit and other destinations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated total cost for the proposed project is \$328,092 and would be fully funded by the SR2T grant monies, with no local matching funds are required. There is no impact to the General Fund.

MUNICIPAL CODE/POLICY DOCUMENT CROSS REFERENCE

This action does not affect the Alameda Municipal Code. The proposed projects support the following General Plan Transportation Element Objectives and Policies:

- Policy 4.1.1.b – Enhance pedestrian safety and mobility, particularly in high pedestrian use areas, applying methods consistent with the hierarchy classification of streets identified in 4.1.1.a.
- Policy 4.1.5.c – Continue to support the fixed-route AC Transit system to provide mobility for all, including those without access to personal transportation.
- Objective 4.3.3 – Promote and encourage bicycling as a mode of transportation.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the California Environmental Act (CEQA), this project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c) Existing Facilities.

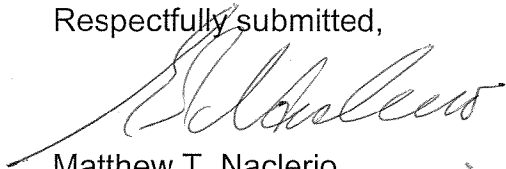
Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

September 6, 2011
Page 3 of 3

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application for \$328,092 to TransForm for the Cycle 4 SR2T program, and to execute all necessary documents.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director

By,



Gail Payne
Transportation Coordinator

Approved as to funds and account,



Fred Marsh
Controller

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION
FOR \$328,092 FOR THE CYCLE 4 SAFE ROUTES TO TRANSIT PROGRAM
AND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Approved as to Form

City Attorney

WHEREAS, TransForm has allocated Cycle 4 Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) grant funds to facilitate walking and bicycling to regional transit; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda is committed to providing enhanced convenience and safety for bus passengers during their travel to/from bus stops and while waiting at bus stops and to providing awareness to motorists of the bicyclists' presence along the proposed bikeways; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda applied to TransForm for \$328,092 for Regional Transit Bus Shelter, Real-time Information and Bike Route Installations; and

WHEREAS, SR2T funding guidelines do not require a local match.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alameda authorizes the City Manger to submit a grant application for \$328,092 to TransForm for the allocation of Cycle 4 SR2T funds for the project described above, and to execute all necessary documents therefor.

* * * * *

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in regular meeting assembled on the 6th day of September, 2011, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 7th day of September, 2011.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda

**Resolution #5-G CC
09-06-11**